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SOVIET CRAB CANNING OPERATIONS

1. The only type of crab fishery in the USSR is for the king, or Kamchatka crab. The Soviet crab fishing industry is concentrated in economic region XII, particularly in the areas of Khabarovskiy Kray, Primorskiy Kray, western Kamchatskaya Oblast, south Sakhalin, and the Kuril Islands (see paragraph 3). Crab canning operations require extensive fishing in both inshore and offshore waters, using land based facilities as well as large cannery ships operated in conjunction with flotillas of small fishing vessels. Crab fishing and canning is highly seasonal. Spring and early summer are generally the months of crabbing activities in the USSR. Soviet crab production, thousands of metric tons, selected years was as follows:

1938	19.0
1943	15.1
1953	29.1
1954	38.0
1955	38.5
1956	37.2

2. The current utilization of slave or concentration camp labor in the crab industry of the Soviet Far East is not known. While it is known that such labor has been used in the Soviet fishing industry, it is highly unlikely that Soviet crab canneries or crab fisheries on the Kuriles or Sakhalin are currently employing concentration camp labor. Mainland canneries however, may be employing such labor.

3. The crab canning installations of the Soviet Far East* are as follows:

Plant Name	Location
Chekhov	Sakhalin
Chernyshevka Floating Cannery	Primorskiy Kray
Dunay (Putyatin Isld)	Primorskiy Kray
Icha	Khabarovsk Kray

* Information as of 1952 or earlier.

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Plant Name (cont.)	Location
Innokent 'yevskiy	Primorskiy Kray
Kholmsk	Sakhalin
Krasnogorsk	Primorskiy Kray
Menshinskiy Floating Cannery	
Otalevo (Ushiro) Nichiro Crab Cannery	Sakhalin
Ptichiy Island	Khabarovsk Kray
Pyapta	Khabarovsk Kray
Sopochnoye	Khabarovsk Kray
Tafuin	Primorskiy Kray
Ushiro (Otalevo)	
Ust Kamchatsk Fish Combine	Khabarovsk Kray
Crab Cannery	Primorskiy Kray
Vsevolod Sibirtsev Floating Cannery	Khabarovsk Kray
Vtoroy Krabolov Floating Cannery	Primorskiy Kray

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